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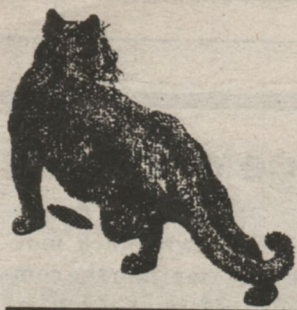
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The

Panther

May 1, 1998
Vol. 75, No. 10

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Year-in-review:

By Patrina A. Bostic,
Carlos Hopkins, John
Scott, and Tiara M. Ellis
Panther Editorial Staff

Through all of the good and bad, it has finally come full circle and another academic year at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) has come to a close.

The 1997-98 year has held a lot of dramatic changes for the university. From athletic achievements to the loss of some great professors, PVAMU still stands.

In recognition of the end of a yet another year, *The Panther* is reflecting on the past year in all its glory and defeats.

What a year we've had in sports—three whopping first time ever Southwestern Athletic Championships (SWAC) in the history of the university.

The Men's Indoor Track and Field team lead the way to victory and on its heel came the men's basketball team triumphing in the media's spotlight while advancing to the National Collegiate Athletics Association

Students come full circle as they fall out of '97, spring into '98

to the women's bowling team who aimed to demolish every pin in sight and secured a grand second place SWAC trophy which they embraced with pride.

As PVAMU brings a winning athletic tradition to the campus, the football team's losing streak continues. It's possible they may catch that championship fever for the Fall 1998 season.

Out of the communication department the forensic team won high "superior" and "excellent" honors in the Pi Kappa Delta Bi-Province Forensic Tournament at McNeese State University-Lake Charles.

Our prestigious Marching Storm will no longer be recruiting students with scholarship money. Students presently receiving stipends will have to find other means of paying for their tuition. The future quality of our band remains questionable.

Famous playwright, Dr. Ntozake Shange, known for her Broadway hit *For Colored Girls Who Consider Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf* honored PVAMU when she was hired to teach English literature and drama classes.

The University Choir traveled to Las Vegas, NV, for a vocal competition and competed well with one student, Jean Mays, winning first place for an outstanding vocal performance.

The best "thing" to happen to the *The Panther* came on board in the Fall 1997 with fire and determination. Dr. Kimetris Baltrip, lead the publication to new heights.

In addition, the PVAMU Computer Science Department won the heart of NASA which lead to



photo by Gionga M'Mbijewe

Mr. and Miss Prairie View 1997-98 sit atop their float during the Homecoming Parade basking in the limelight.

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photo by Gionga M'Mbijewe

Senior NCAA All-American and Olympic trial qualifier, Dakari Jahi Lenear, runs his leg of the relay race.



(NCAA).
Mean-
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photo by Gionga M'Mbijewe

The trumpet section of The Marching Storm pauses to catch the beat.



photo by Gionga M'Mbijewe

Students dance in front of Alumni Hall to zydeco music in celebration of Springfest 1998.



photo by Gionga M'Mbijewe

Greek unity is represented as members of each organization present their signs on the steps of the Memorial Student Center.

Media injust to image of blacks



By Carlos Hopkins
Copy Editor

Entertainment?—I think not.

The images on television that depict Black people in this society are quite disturbing.

Gangsters, drug dealers, hustlers, pimps, whores, should I go on? It is disturbing to watch the scenes on the nightly news which show young Black men and women going to jail for doing crime, as if that is all we do.

My problem is that we (Black people) have too many negative images on television and in films put out by Black and White people. It seems as if we are trained to accept these images because it is said to be "what is going on."

What about the other things that are going on? Where are stories about the Black lawyer becoming a partner at a law firm, or the Black man or woman going from a hard-working police officer to police chief, or the Black man graduating from medical school with a degree to practice medicine? Where are the Black CEOs, judges, and entrepreneurs with successful businesses? Where are these images and why aren't they shown on television or in films?

Our younger generation need images like these to have something to strive for. They need more television shows to focus on family values and getting an education, not just having to see an overload of Black-on-Black crime on television.

There is also too much emphasis on growing up to play professional basketball - mostly shown in soft drink commercials.

I am not totally saying do away with soft drink commercials and basketball, but have some type of balance of commercials.

It seems as if these commercials are teaching our Black youth to be a basketball team player and not a basketball team owner. Is that the overall plan?

Our own Black movies are no better than the commercials. Most of the films made by Black people have a good point or valuable concerns that need to be addressed, but why include the negative stereotypes that our Black race has been plagued with.

For example, in the movie Soul Food, why was there gang violence? The director could have easily proved his point without it.

In fact, most of the Black movies produced have scenes with some type of gang violence or gang material, or they have actors using bad grammar suggesting that the particular person is from the ghetto or the "hood."

Not all people who live in the hood use bad grammar. In the real world, people tend to look down on people that live in the ghettos when in fact that person may be a hard-working individual.

If what is displayed on television is constantly repeated and supported by Black people, it will become a major factor in how people view Black people in today's society.

Our beautiful Black women, the mothers and queens of our race, are too often viewed as whores, easy-going, having no morals, too independent, and with bad attitudes.

Yes, there are WOMEN who are like that. Why do these images have to be publicized at the expense of Black women?

Black brothers and sisters, we really need to watch the way we play into these stereotypical roles and make an effort to clean up our image.

A lot of Black people act and talk the way they do because of how they are influenced by television, films, and most of all, music.

Let us all be more positive and supportive of one another as brothers and sisters. We can set our own standards and not let someone do it for us.

We can change the way we are viewed in society. All of this can be done not just by one individual, but as a whole.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fall brings oportunities that make a difference

Santee's Bowers
Panther Staff

As the spring 1998 semester comes to an end, students are gathering their thoughts and plans for the summer. Taking the summertime break to vacation, to work, or to further their education, many students should not forget about their home away from home.

As they return to Prairie View A&M University in the fall, many should prepare to make an improvement in the campus life atmosphere. With new students, foreign and domestic; new professors, young and old; and a new student government president, full of ideas and ready to start; alumni should prepare to see PVAMU with a new look.

Fulfilling the fall semester 'kicking it' time with activity, instead of going to the game room, many should take every opportunity to do something productive. Whether it is community service,

vice, assisting within their department, or becoming an active member of SGA, students should take every opportunity to leave a positive impression.

Instead of composing new complaints, students should try to aid in the correction of old complaints. Instead of reminiscing about broken promises from the president, students should take the initiative to get things done themselves. Instead of complaining about the sports program, the football team in particular, many should support all student activities during the fall.

It is easy to say that people should do this, instead of doing that, but what ever they choose to do, students should not take their education for granted. With so many oportunities ahead, I encourage and challenge young Africans to make a difference. First improving the university, then the community, many students and their actions may lead to a nation-wide evolution.

Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor

Anyone who reads The Panther can submit a letter to the editor at P. O. Box 2876, Prairie View, TX 77446 or in the Memorial Student Center, room 114. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number. These submissions reflect the opinions of The Panther readers and not the staff.



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The Gilpin Players get back into the swing of things

Isn't it ironic how sometimes you can have a year where you are on top of the world as national champions? Everybody loves and respects you. Then, the next year it's an absolute ghost town.

Well, that's the way it was in Hobart, Texas with the music and drama department. The fall semester this year was a complete turnaround from last year, as you may recall.

The Charles Gilpin Players have held a long-time winning tradition since the arrival of Mr. C. Lee Turner in 1979.

*In 1982, the Gilpins were chosen to perform at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C., as one of the six top college performing troupes in the nation.

*In 1983, at the Northeast American College Theater Festival held at Pan American University, the Gilpins swept major awards presented including Best Choreography, Best Costumes, Best Set Design, Best Director, and Best Musical Cast for their production of the *Cotton Club Revue*.

*In 1984, the Gilpins continued their legacy by being one of ten college theater groups chosen to perform at the World's Fair in New Orleans. The mayor of New Orleans

gave the Gilpins a key to the city and named July 25, 1984, as Prairie View A&M University Day in honor of the Gilpin Players.

*From 1985-87, the Gilpins won the American College Theater Festival.

The Gilpin Players won more awards at their regional competition at San Jacinto's Community College in Pasadena, TX than any other university.



The production was *Infancy/Zoo Story*, two absur, one-act plays which both take place in New York City's Central Park.

Then, the Gilpins gained the most awards for *Fences* at a Commerce, including Director's Choice and Best Ensemble Acting. A totally different play and cast from *Infancy/Zoo Story*, *Fences* was chosen to go to the Kennedy Center for an exhibition performance along with four other universities from across the country. Also, Irene Ryan Nominee, Exekial Morgan and partner Taryne Metcalf fared extremely well in the national competition.

The fall semester there were no glamorous cabaret shows and no glorious awards from competitions. We did, however, keep up the main-stage campus shows: *Dial M for Murder*, *Herbert III*, and *Shoes* which were all directed by Dr. Theodis, Jr.

The spring semester found the Gilpin Players getting back into the swing of things.

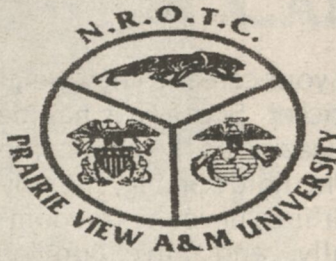
This semester started off at the TETA convention in Dallas, then a performance of *To Be Young, Gifted and Black* in Plano, and finally a tour of *Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope* was performed at the Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters.

The student directing projects were a big hit this year thanks to budding directors D'Carrey Stell and Richard Bratcher.

This letter was contributed to The Panther by the Music and Drama department.



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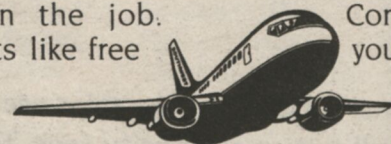
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CAMPUS NEWS

Programs assist student progress toward education degree

Below are a few programs that may be useful for students as the year comes to a close:

- Students who entered the University in the Fall of 1997 may be eligible for a \$1000 rebate. In order to be considered for the rebate, students must graduate with no more than three hours beyond their degree plan.
- The International Financial Aid Fund is to assist students who are approved for study abroad. Students must be accepted into an international Academic Program Committee.
- The "Right to an Academic Fresh Start" entitles residents of Texas to seek admission to public institutions of higher education as undergraduate students without consideration of courses undertaken ten or more years prior to enrollment.

Students must meet the qualifications for each program. For additional information regarding guidelines for these programs, contact Mrs. Nicole Woods, Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at 409-857-2626.

Frontier Festival recognizes PVAMU professors

Prairie View, TX

Drs. Bruce Twyman and John Fuller represented Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) at the University of Houston Annual Frontier Fiesta Festival on April 18-19, 1998.

PVAMU participated with a display for the first time this year. The display was funded from research enhancement grant entitled "Black Seminoles in North American Politics 1845-Present."

The festival had an estimated 6000 students and professors attending.

Nick 'em but don't hurt 'em - Domino

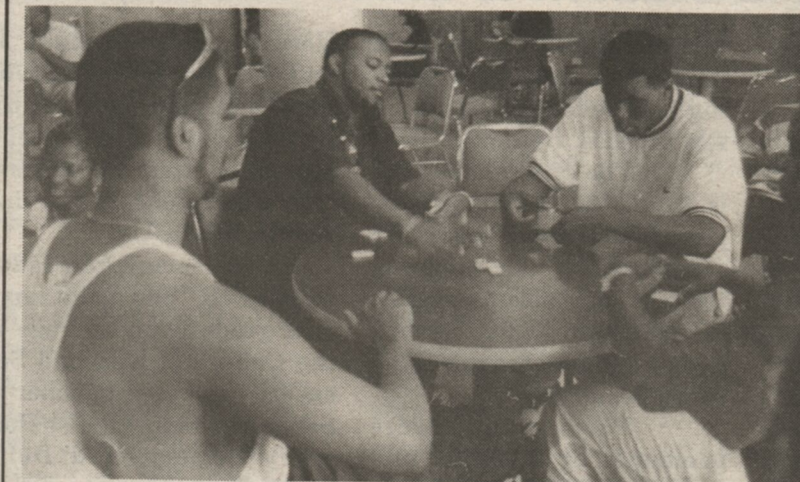


photo by Tracey Moore

Relaxing in the game room with a quick hand of dominoes after class allows students to get their minds off of those upcoming exams.

Prairie View A&M University students serve as facilitators at conference in Tampa, Florida

Prairie View, TX

Sixteen members of the Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) Student Branch Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) presented a session and served as facilitators at the Annual ACEI International Study Conference in Tampa, Fla., April 15-18, 1998.

The response to their session, entitled "Culturally and Developmentally Appropriate Emergent Literacy Activities for Young Children," was overwhelming.

The members attending the conference were Lea

Barksdale, Kizzy Brooks, Mone't Clarkston, Nicole Cozart, Troy Daniels II (Mr. ACEI), Karen Davis, Jacqueline Gerrans, Shandrea Harris (President), Kim E. Lee, Willie Manning, Christina McCloud, Stephanie McNeil, Yalisha Reed, LaKeisha Rider, Kimberly Scott, and Elizabeth Warren.

PVAMU had the largest representation of university students from Texas in attendance at the conference. The students were accompanied by their university ACEI sponsors, Dr. Martha L. Bailey and Dr. Ollie J. Davis, a host of chaperon, Ms. Jerlyn Mosley.

ACEI is the oldest professional organization for

those involved in the education of children from infancy through early adolescence.

Members of the PVAMU student branch are preservice teachers majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies, usually with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education/Elementary Education.

Members have participated in many local activities throughout the academic year, including the Annual Officer Installation Ceremony, a Thanksgiving Luncheon, where nonperishable food items were collected for neighborhood families, a host of Christmas activities for the community and various other projects.

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CAMPUS NEWS

Communication student to intern at CBS, Inc.

Prairie View, TX

The Communication Department of Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) congratulates SaKinna Thomas, junior, double majoring in Communication and English for being chosen to work with CBS Inc. this summer.

Thomas was chosen by CBS Inc. and The College Fund/UNCF to participate in the 1998 CBS Career Hori-

zons Program. The program provides an eight week learning experience at CBS Inc. in Los Angeles, Calif.

The program stipend is \$5,000 for an eight-week period and upon successful completion of the program, Thomas may also be eligible to receive up to \$8,000 in scholarship support for the 1998-99 academic year.

Participants were nominated by deans and professors. The 1998 CBS Career

Horizons Program chose 10 students, two for the Los Angeles site and eight for the New York site, from a pool of applicants from all Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Thomas is from Indianapolis, IN. She maintains a 3.82 grade point average in the College of Arts and Sciences. She is a member of Sigma Tau Delta English Honorary Society, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Housing update: It's time to move

Semester hall closing

• As stated in your Housing Contract and Handbook, Residence Halls will be

closing to the general student population Sat., May 9, 1998 at 12 noon through Aug. 16, 1998.

Fall housing for returning students

• Room reservations for students seeking housing in the Fall Semester 1998 can be made before the end of the semester.

• Room reservation deposits of \$100 must be paid prior to May 1, 1998 for the Fall Semester 1998 for all returning students.

Fall housing for new & transfer students

• Fall housing for new and transfer students can be made through the mail or in August.

• Any residents found residing in the residence hall illegally will be charged with trespassing, may lose future housing privileges, and will be billed.

Summer housing

• All residents who have met their fiscal obligations and who have not been placed on a university enrollment block, and plan to attend summer school need to apply for housing at University Village.

Panther Classified Ads

Miscellaneous

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77446 or call (409)
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BLACK HISTORY

Former PVAMU president molds the university of today



Former
PVAMU
president
and
visionary,
Dr. Alvin
Ignace
Thomas

By John Scott
News Editor

Former Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) President Dr. Alvin Ignace Thomas is not a name known by very many present day students on this campus, but it is one they should learn and never forget.

Thomas' contributions during his 33 years of service to PVAMU (16 of which were spent as president) enabled students to attain a quality higher education.

Dr. Thomas came to Prairie View A&M College as a woodwork instructor in 1949

after receiving his Master of Science from Kansas State University.

He worked for Prairie View for 17 years in a number of capacities including director of its division of industrial education and dean of its entire school of Industrial Education and Technology.

During this time, Dr. Thomas continued his own education (eventually receiving his Ph.D from Ohio State University), while formulating and solidifying his ideas on the university's directions.

He was given the opportunity to put his ideas to the test in 1966, when he was

appointed president of the university, replacing the originally appointed Dr. J.M. Drew who had grown ill shortly after taking office.

This twist of fate drastically changed the face of the university.

According to a March 1979 article in *Texas Monthly*, the campus Dr. Thomas inherited resembled a "...Jerry built army barracks in the South Pacific..."; its drop out rate was "...more than 70 percent..."; and the laboratories were using "...hand-me-down equipment from Texas A&M that was hopelessly out of date..."

Faced with these circumstances, Dr. Thomas studied and learned his from competitors who had succeeded.

One competitor he studied was Yale University. He traveled to Yale to witness first hand how it was run and talk to those who attended or worked there.

After his observations, Dr. Thomas said in an interview, "...Everything at that university is tied directly

to a system of upper-class ethics and values..."

"...There is a built in guarantee that, once you have been exposed to the Yale ethic, you are immediately qualified to enter the upper class."

Dr. Thomas continued, "...They (Yale) had perfected the art of perpetuating a white upper class."

Dr. Thomas wanted PVAMU to "...perfect the art of perpetuating a black middle class..." elevating underprivileged kids from the ghetto into it.

He knew in order to attain his goal, it would be necessary improve the appearance, facilities and curriculum at PVAMU.

After strongly lobbying the Texas A&M University system, he had not only attained a new master plan for PVAMU, but \$13 million to begin implementation.

The first buildings built were Holley Hall and Drew Hall dormitories and the Alumni dining hall.

Completed in 1973, these structures were the be-

ginning of a building boom which resulted in the erection of the fire and security building, Farrell Hall, Burleson-Ware ROTC Building, Hobart Taylor Hall, the engineering building, KPVM radio station and the Owens-Franklin Health center.

In addition, he added extensive landscaping, planting trees and grass on the campus where there was little or none. He also changed the majority of the curriculum to focus more on traditionally middle class professions.

His approach seems to have worked as PVAMU has become a leading American university.

The enrollment has doubled since he began his tenure from around 2,500 in 1966 to well over 6,000 today and the dropout rate has fallen well below 50 percent.

Sadly, poor health forced him to resign in 1982, leaving many wondering what could have been, for no presidents since have left such an indelible mark on the face of the university.

1st PERSON

Jessye Norman

Her operatic reputation is so great that the proud, culture-obsessed French chose her, an American, to sing their national anthem in France's 1989 bicentennial celebration.

DID YOU KNOW?

- HER HEROINE: Soprano Marion Anderson, who struggled against discrimination in 1940s
- BROUGHT LIBEL SUIT AGAINST: Classic CD Magazine, which had griped about a large-figured 49-year-old singing the part of a seductive teenager in the opera "Salome"
- MERIT BADGE: Made a lifetime member of Girl Scouts, 1987
- HER VOICE: Strongest and most expressive in middle and low notes; unstable on higher notes

PERSONAL DATA

- BORN: Sept. 15, 1945, Augusta, Ga.
- EDUCATION: Howard Univ., Univ. of Michigan, Peabody Conservatory (Baltimore)
- CAREER: Operatic debut in Berlin, 1969; performed in Europe; made U.S. debut in 1972; in later years, tours and many recordings

SOURCES: Collier's Encyclopedia, Who's Who in America, New York Times Magazine; Winne Klotz photo courtesy of Metropolitan Opera

Learn more and take the Jessye Norman quiz online at:
(Your Web site's URL goes here)

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ENTERTAINMENT

Students of fashion, merchandising sew up the industry



Students and faculty of PVAMU attended the 12th annual Marketing Opportunities in Black Entertainment in New Orleans this past semester.

By Keisha Smith
Special to The Panther

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is a higher learning institution that encourages not only scholarly excellence, but also diversity and creativity among its students.

From the College of Engineering to the College of

Liberal Arts & Sciences, talented PVAMU students of all majors continue to stand out and display their talents including those in Fashion Design & Merchandising in the Department of Human Sciences.

Many people are not even aware that PVAMU offers a Fashion Merchandising program, but that silence will soon be broken as PVAMU students in the pro-

gram make their move.

The head of the program is Ann Johnson who graduated from PVAMU in 1992 and began teaching here in 1995.

Johnson also founded Club 'Flava', an organization geared toward Fashion Merchandising & Design majors, with membership open to everyone.

Johnson said she wanted to start a club that was fresh, creative, and innovative.

This semester, Club 'Flava' attended the Marketing Opportunities in Black Entertainment (M.O.B.E.) conference in New Orleans. The conference was a great opportunity for the students who were able to attend.

Although the conference focused on marketing, organizational seminars such as "Fashion and Blacks In The Computer Industry" were included. The students met a

see **Fashion** on page 11

DENZEL WASHINGTON

HE GOT GAME

THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY GAME

TOUCHSTONE PICTURES PRESENTS A 40 ACRES AND A MULE FILMWORKS PRODUCTION SPIKE LEE DENZEL WASHINGTON "HE GOT GAME" RAY ALLEN MILLA JOVOVICH ALEX STEYERMARK AARON COPLAND PUBLIC ENEMY EDITOR BARRY ALEXANDER BROWN PRODUCED BY JON KILIK AND SPIKE LEE WRITTEN BY SPIKE LEE

OPENS IN SELECT THEATRES MAY 1

Since this is the most read column of The Panther, the staff thought it would only be appropriate to select our favorite questions of the 1997-98 school year. This column was not only created for your humorous enjoyment, but it was also created in the hopes of provoking thought among students and faculty. We would like to thank all the readers and we intend to keep on asking the questions that produce humor and provoke thought. And now without further ado we present to you.....

The Best of
20 Questions
1997-98

1. Why is this the only section of *The Panther* most of you are reading?
2. Now that Valentine's Day is over, what will po' Miss Bettye and her flowers do?
3. How many points do you have left on your meal plan?
4. Why do the campus police try to give tickets to females who won't give them their phone numbers?
5. Why is it that the president had two teams in national competition (Honda Campus All-Star and PV Men's Basketball team) and showed up for neither?
6. If PV is supposed to be a business, why aren't the customers always right?
7. Now wait a minute, we all love Kirk Franklin, but when the DJ plays "Stomp" after Master P at the club do we stomp or bounce dat a**?
8. Why is the Homecoming concert for the alumni and Springfest for the locals?
9. What's so *Express* about KFC and Taco Bell?
10. Isn't PV the only place on earth where you can walk right up to a squirrel and look him in the eyes?
11. Why is it that you don't hear from certain organizations until it's time for intake?
12. Where the hell are all the communications majors? (Yo, *The Panther* needs your help!)
13. Doesn't Ron Jones look like Dr. Hines?
14. Is 1998 the year for PV sports, or what?
15. Why is there a flier in the MSC that says "No More Fliers in the MSC"?
16. Since there have been so many problems found in Phase I since its arrival, shouldn't the construction men slow down just a little on the building of Phase III?
17. Remember when the front of Alumni used to be crunk?
18. Why are 15% of the females on this campus students during the day and strippers at night?
19. Why is University Village so trifling?
20. Who is the idiot who asked the AKA's "Does AKA stand for Any Kappa Anytime"?

Agricultural research stretches abroad

By Patrina A. Bostic
Managing Editor

Prairie View A&M University's (PVAMU) College of Agriculture and Human Sciences signed a collaborative agreement known as a Memorandum of Understanding with Universidad Autonoma Agraria Antonio Narro (UAAAN)-Torreon, Mexico, this spring with hopes of creating opportunities for limited resource farmers.

The efforts between PVAMU and UAAAN center around sending the South African Boer meat goat to UAAAN for cross breeding with some of Mexico's indigenous goats in an attempt to find the best combination which not only produces superior meat, but also a dual purpose dairy and meat goat.

Boer goats have been sent to UAAAN and research is underway.

PVAMU was the first university in the United States to import and study the Boer goat, according to Dr. Dalton McWhinney, Agriculture Research Scientist.

"We are the top HBCU (Historical Black Colleges and Universities) goat research center of the 1890 institutions, and people come (here) from all over the world for goat management and research," said McWhinney.

PVAMU founded its International Goat Research Center in 1983 and has since established agreements with the Ministry of Agriculture in Jamaica and the University of Costa Rica as goats are more numerous in countries outside the United States.

"We've extended our arm and have included neighboring countries as partners in our research effort," touted Dr. Alfred Parks, Research Director of

the PVAMU Cooperative Agricultural Research Center. "There are a lot of spin-offs from our research and with the NAFTA between the United States and Mexico great opportunities exist."

According to Parks, cattle are not as profitable as they once were because they require more land, manpower, and other resources to raise compared to goats.

He also pointed out that 5% of United States citizens have problems digesting cow milk and goat milk would be an alternative.

Parks hopes to work with a company such as Blue Bell in developing a formula for ice cream, and other projects include gourmet cheeses and yogurts all made from goat milk.

The joint venture also focuses on developing academic and cultural exchange programs for

students and faculty.

Three PVAMU students and one faculty member will study at UAAAN this summer, and in the fall, a graduate student from UAAAN will enroll in PVAMU classes while exchanging scientific, statistical and agro-economic information from UAAAN research center.

Parks is optimistic that those traveling to Mexico will return home speaking Spanish and said "learning Spanish is another benefit of this program."

"I think it's a good agreement between PVAMU and Mexico because it puts us in a position to address issues pertaining to goat production and management at an international level which is one of our primary responsibilities as an International Goat Research Center," said McWhinney.

Parks said he hopes this project will be the beginning of many projects with UAAAN.

PVAMU professor studying abroad

Prairie View, TX

Ronald Server, coordinator of the Prairie View A&M University Criminal Justice Program, has been selected to participate in the National Security Educational Program (NSEP).

The program entitled, "Improving Educational Opportunities Among Diverse Student Populations" is to be held this summer at the University of Iowa, followed by a month-long tour of the Soviet Union, including Russia, the Ukraine and Budapest, Hungary.

The program is designed to enhance international studies at targeted universities with limited academic work and research capacity in the field.

Server, an attorney, teaches a comparative law class and hopes his experience will provide research material for his class.

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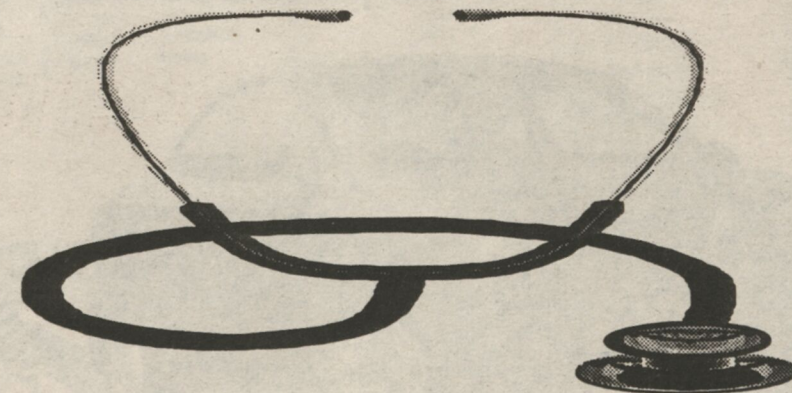
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10. American General Health Plan
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17. APWU
18. Beech Street
19. Benefit Planner
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26. Choice 100
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28. CNA Companies
29. Cost Care
30. Crowns Life
31. EBP Health Plans
32. EDS Health Benefit Plans
33. ETHIX Southwest
34. Fed Select
35. First Health
36. GEHA
37. Golden Rule Life
38. Great Fidelity Life
39. Health Administration Services
40. Health Advantage
41. Health Care Alliance
42. Health Care Compare
43. Health Compare Affordable
44. Health Net Provider
45. Health Partner
46. Health Select
47. Health Risk Management
48. HEC (Health Economics) Select
49. Hill Country Life Insurance Company
50. Home Life
51. Houston Health Care Purchasing Org.
52. Humana Health Care Plans
53. IBS
54. Jefferson Pilot

Jefferson Life Insurance Company

55. John Alden
56. John Hancock Advantage Plan
57. John Hancock
58. Lamar Life
59. Liberty Mutual
60. Managed Health Care
61. Medicaid
62. Med Corp Southwest, Inc.
63. Medicare
64. Mega Life
65. Mid-Continent Medical
66. Memorial Health Network
67. Memorial Sisters of Charity
68. Met Life
69. Metra Health
70. Monticello Life Insurance Company
71. Motorola Health Plan
72. Mutual of Omaha

73. National Automatic Sprinkler Industry
74. National Foundation Life Insurance Co.
75. National Health Care Alliance
76. Northwest Houston Providers Alliance
77. Northwestern National Life
78. NYL Care (PPO)
79. One Health Plan of Texas
80. PPO of Texas
81. Philadelphia Life
82. Phoenix - Home Life
83. Preferred Health Network
84. Preferred Plan of TX
85. Prudential Life Insurance Co.
86. Private Health Care Systems
87. Provident Life
88. Regit

89. Sams Report (PPO)
90. Sierra Health
91. Southwest Home Life Insurance
92. Standard Insurance Company
93. Student Insurance
94. Tareco PPO & EPO
95. Texas Municipal League
96. The Lubrizol Corporation
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SPORTS NEWS

PVAMU sports deserve to get a fair shake

By John Scott
News Editor

It's the bottom of the last inning, two outs, two strikes, and your team's down by one. You have a runner on second, if you swing at this next pitch and connect for a base hit, you could drive the tying run home, but if you swing and miss....

This is what was running through Rosalyn Hicks' mind just before her bat connected with the ball for the game tying RBI. That hit put her team, the Prairie View A&M Lady Panthers, in position to eventually beat Southern University 5-4 with Latrisha Williams' thundering home run in the bottom of the second extra inning. This also was after overcoming a 3-1 deficit.

The Lady Panthers really showed their character that second round of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Championship softball tournament and throughout.

see Sports on page 11

Three ways to beat the high cost of college.

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- 2. Student loan repayment
- 3. Part-time income

The Army Reserve Alternate Training Program is a smart way to pay for college.

First, if you qualify, the Montgomery GI Bill can provide you with up to \$7,124 for current college expenses or approved vo/tech training.

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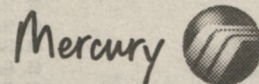
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Sports from page 10

They went on to win it all and to do it, they annihilated the best the SWAC had to offer with scores like the 10-2 shelling of Mississippi Valley State in the first round and the 9-1 thrashing of Alabama State in the championship game.

Yet what do they receive as a result of these feats?

Of course they receive a conference championship, but do they get the opportunity to represent the conference as well as their university on a national level in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tourna-

ment?

The answer is no. Why you say?

Well, according to SWAC public relations director Lonza Hardy, the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) of the SWAC is not high enough in softball in order for it to claim either an automatic spot in the NCAA tournament or have any of its teams invited.

The RPI is a rating scale used by the NCAA to determine the overall strength of any given college sports team as well as its conference. It is based upon how well teams perform against opponents outside their con-

ferences. The more non-conference games they win, the higher the rating goes for both themselves and their conference.

The problem with the SWAC is we really don't play enough non-conference games against teams with decent RPI ratings in any sport to truly gain a stronger rating ourselves.

That has to change. If for no other reason than it is costing money.

A higher RPI rating for the whole conference could raise our seed in NCAA tournament for starters to say 15th or maybe even 14th

which increases our chances of survival to the next rounds, which in the case of the basketball tournament, could possibly mean another \$250,000 for the conference.

Many say we don't have the athletes to compete with those other conferences and that they'll destroy us. I disagree.

You'll never be able to compete with the best if you don't play with the best.

If our conference is in fact mediocre, how are we supposed to get better if we play mostly with ourselves and those inferior to us?

Think about it.

Fashion from page 8

number of professionals including Black Entertainment Television (BET) representatives, and Daymond John, CEO and designer of FUBU (For Us By Us) Fashions.

Currently John is working on a Fashion Advisory counsel project which will serve as a mentorship program, 'Fad P.V.'

Merchandising students are now designing an urban sportswear line. The line will include apparel for males, females, and full figured people and should be ready by Fall '98 after securing a license.



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS. Difference: 1. Pillow is smaller. 2. Sign is different. 3. Drunk is shorter. 4. Boy is missing. 5. Sippers are added. 6. Drum is different.

MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



P.V.'s Own "Jus' Chillin'": By Quincy Higgins



MAGIC MAZE

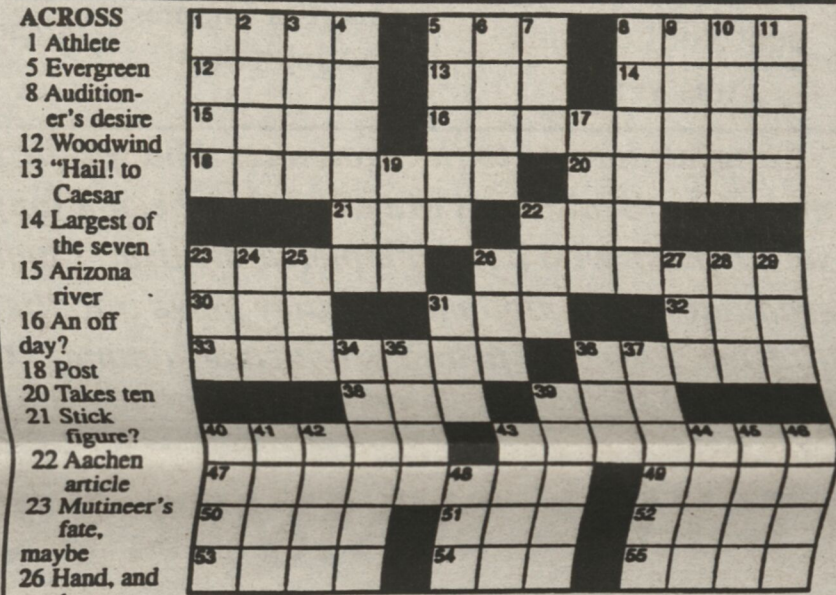
HALL

XGDAXUROELJCGDA
XVSPNKICGYOFCAX
INDEPENDENCEVSQ
OLJHIAEIVOICAXV
TRTPDNGENHNRLJH
FDABYENCWPXVITR
POMTNTAOMOMMHK
IGMRIREDTYUOEBZ
XOAOTOINESRALSW
TCNOITIBIHXEUTS
RQYONLJCIGFDCAY

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Annie Convention Independence Tammany
Arsenio Dance Music Tom T.
Carnegie Exhibition Pool Town
Concert Hiring Symphony

KING CROSSWORD

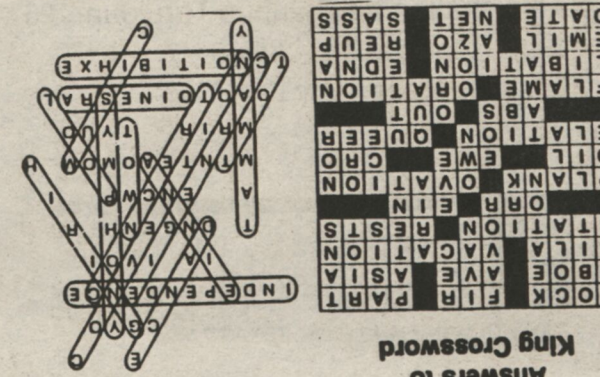


ACROSS
1 Athlete
5 Evergreen
8 Audition-er's desire
12 Woodwind
13 "Hail! to Caesar
14 Largest of the seven
15 Arizona river
16 An off day?
18 Post
20 Takes ten
21 Stick figure?
22 Aachen article
23 Mutineer's fate, maybe
26 Hand, and then some
30 Spindletop spillage
31 Ram's ma'am
32 —Mag-non man
33 High spirits
36 Eccentric
38 Stomach muscles
39 Extinguished
40 Sweetheart
43 Desmo-thenes' offering
47 Beverage
49 — St. Vincent Millay
50 Bygone actor
51 Nitrogenous
52 Sign on for

DOWN
1 Trots
2 Last writes?
3 Pop preference
4 Batman portrayer
5 Act of goodwill
6 Terrible guy?
7 Fun 'n' games
8 Obvious
9 Un-repaired
10 Laugh-a-minute type
11 Prepares

leather
17 "Turandot" tune
19 Annoy
22 Leading lady?
23 "To Helen" writer
24 Abner's adjective
25 Carte lead-in
26 Make the last payment on
27 Lemieux milieu
28 Raw rock
29 Postal creed word
31 Dawn goddess
34 Mexican

fare
35 Utterance of skepticism
36 Sine-non link
37 Puts into words
39 Whether
40 Ske-daddled
41 Ohio city
42 Slightly
43 Slime
44 Brainstorm
45 Responsi-bility
46 Entries on Baby's agenda
48 Author Fleming



THE FINAL WORD

Students, faculty, staff express congratulations, farewells, thank yous, and good byes.

Congratulations
to the ladies of
Delta Sigma Theta
Sorority Inc.
Spring '98;
"Evolution"
To the "Heavenly 67,"
Love #32

CONGRATULATIONS
Carolyn Hurst!
From Katrena & LaMonika;
Get those future millionaires
while you can! We'll miss
you! (Naw! Forreal!)

Congratulations
Marsha Denise Taylor
Best of Luck in the
Future! *from*
SaKinna Thomas

I would like to say thanks to
PXY, DST, friends and fam-
ily. I have truly had a Panther
experience. Continue to be
true to God and yourself-ev-
eryone else will fall in place.
I luv you TP, CB, & CB.
Take care JW, AS, & MP.
Peace and Soul! *From*
Samantha R. Thomas

A Special Thank You!
to the Student Government As-
sociation for the banquet and
special recognition bestowed
upon the "Golden Girls" of the
Registrar's Office. We appreci-
ate your thoughtfulness for be-
stowing upon us "The Panther
Pride Award."
From: Frieda Fereday, Daisy
Herzog, and Georgia Owens

HOTEP! To all of those who
supported me throughout my
reign as Mr. PV and your votes
for the S.G.A. elections. And to
all the "G's," keep elevating!
from **ALZO SLADE JR.**

CONGRATULATIONS to
all of the graduating sorors of
Fall '95 (*Delta Sigma Theta*)
Eta Beta's "Mission Impos-
sible." Love #18 China Doll

DOC'S SHOUT-OUTS

Thanks to all of the
students who
worked with Stu-
dent Publications
this year.

Congratulations to *The*
Panther graduating
seniors: **Eric Gaither,**
Samantha Thomas,
and **John Scott.**

Spring 1998 success in
Student Publications
couldn't be possible without
Gitonga M'Mbijewe, Ron
Jones, and Brian Dickens!
Thanks so much!
"Dr. K. Baltrip"

Mr. 10 "The Perfect Man," al-
though you are graduating, **Eric**
Gaither, you'll always be in our
hearts & on our minds. Love the
Sisters of DST.

CONGRATULATIONS to
Dr. K. Baltrip for being chosen
Communications Dept. "Profes-
sor of the Year." And thank You
for such wonderful leadership of
The Panther.

Thank You
to all of The Panther's
editors, staff, advisor,
and all of the people
who supported Stu-
dent Publications.
This year couldn't have
been wonderful with-
out you. *From* Anony-
mous

*"Congratulations to the graduates who will be honored at the Commence-
ment Convocation on May 9. It has been a long and difficult journey and I
salute those who have completed the trip. I look forward to giving the
graduates their diplomas, as they move into the real world of work. To our
students, have a safe and productive summer. God bless you all."*

Prairie View A&M University President **Dr. Charles A. Hines**

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